

SENATE RESOLUTION 57
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor Martin Filchock of Hawkins County
upon his exemplary career as a cartoonist.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding citizens who through dedication and diligence have made significant contributions to their respective professions; and

WHEREAS, Martin Filchock, a nationally prominent and truly gifted cartoonist, is most assuredly one such exemplary citizen who is deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, a native of Pennsylvania, Martin Filchock demonstrated his singular artistic abilities at an early age; and

WHEREAS, he sold his first cartoon to *Tidbits* magazine at the age of 13; he proudly earned \$5 for his efforts; and

WHEREAS, with the advent of comics as a popular mass medium, Mr. Filchock earned money during the Depression by drawing comic strips; and

WHEREAS, after proudly serving his country for 40 months in the U.S. Army during World War II, Mr. Filchock re-entered civilian life and devoted himself and his peerless talents to drawing cartoons; and

WHEREAS, during the course of his meritorious career, Mr. Filchock's finely crafted work has appeared in many well-known and popular publications, including *Reader's Digest* and *The Saturday Evening Post*, and

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WHEREAS, at least part of his astounding success can be attributed to his cartoons appearing regularly in *Highlights for Children* magazine, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, thirty-five years ago, Mr. Filchock began a mutually beneficial relationship with the magazine when he sold his first cartoons to *Highlights for Children*, which has the largest circulation, estimated at 300,000, of any periodical for juveniles; and

WHEREAS, over the years, his puzzle “Check and Double Check” has become an extremely popular feature of the magazine, remaining timely and pertinent in its simplicity, despite the many changes in the styles and mores that our society has undergone during this time; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Filchock received a generous \$35 for his first “Check and Double Check” puzzles; thankfully, his remuneration has increased gradually throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Filchock and his family moved to Hawkins County in 1975, when his daughter entered medical school at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he soon found yet another outlet for his creativity, *The Rogersville Review*; and

WHEREAS, each week Mr. Filchock draws a cartoon that appears on the opinion page of the newspaper; and

WHEREAS, the cartoons humorously depict the various issues facing Hawkins County and the response from the *Review’s* readers has been extremely favorable; and

WHEREAS, Martin Filchock is truly a treasure in Tennessee’s artistic community, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Martin Filchock of Hawkins County upon his exemplary career and singular talents as a cartoonist and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.